



The **purpose** of the Utah Commission on Service and Volunteerism is to enable individuals, communities and organizations in Utah to benefit from the service, power, skills, and passion of volunteers. Our **mission** is to strengthen Utah communities through the power of service and volunteerism. Our **vision** is vibrant, productive communities with active, engaged citizens.

Minutes

COMMISSION MEETING

March 19, 2015

2:00 to 4:00 P.M.

Capitol Board Room

ATTENDEES

Commissioners

Chris Bray

Dwight Rasmussen

Jona Whitesides for Kris Hamlet

Alan Griffin

Anne O'Brien

Debbie Hardy

Lynette Rasmussen

Jake Murakami

Lt. Gov Cox

Stan Penfold

Guests

Samantha Olsen

Corrine Olsen

Darryl Olsen

David Bayless

Staff

LaDawn Stoddard

Rochelle Runge

Katie Barlow

Mandee Curtis

Karrie Beardall

WELCOME

Amy Bridan who was serving in the National Service Program Manager position with UServeUtah has left that role to be a stay at home mom. LaDawn Stoddard has been reviewing applications and conducting interviews; a decision is expected to be made by the end of the week.

Dave Clark from Zions Bank, Senator Ann Milner, Evelyn Salazar from Salt Lake Community College who will serve as a youth representative, Stan Penfold from the Utah AIDS Foundation, and Joel Moriyama from the LDS Church were announced as new commissioners.

An updated commissioner roster was provided. Changes to the roster should be send to Katie Barlow at kbarlow@utah.gov. There are currently two vacancies on the board for human services expert and a national service program representative. The national service program representative must meet certain eligibility requirements; LaDawn Stoddard will send the exact language to commissioners and invites recommendations from commissioners.

AmeriCorps Program:

Boys and Girls Club of Utah County

David Bayless is the executive director of Boys and Girls Clubs of Utah County. This past year, they received AmeriCorps funding to participate in the STEM initiative. In the United States, students are not pursuing science, technology, engineering or math degrees in comparison to other countries. Utah boasts a strong STEM industry with many STEM-based businesses, especially in Utah County. According to the Utah Technology Council, up to 70% of workers in these fields have to be recruited from out of state. AmeriCorps members are placed in schools to do break-out sessions of STEM activities with children in the classroom. There is significant evidence that informal STEM activities increase students'

interest, attitudes, awareness, skills behaviors, and desires to pursue STEM careers. Members also recruit business leaders in the STEM industry to teach lessons to students during these informal STEM activities. This program has been well-received by the schools and the Boys and Girls Club of Utah County has started a waiting list for schools that are interested in engaging AmeriCorps members in this capacity. The program is currently serving around 10,000 youth and providing 52 sessions of STEM education over the course of an entire school year. The outcomes they are working to accomplish include: increase academic engagement in STEM, particularly students' attitudes, awareness, engagement, behavior and skills related to STEM. These are measured by pre- and post-tests, observational data by teachers such as student test scores, etc. The program targets middle school age students but also work with grades 4-6. Questions were raised by commissioners about tracking long-term effects of the program, including college engagement by students down the line.

Power of Service Award

Samantha Olsen from Ephraim UT was nominated in January to receive the Lieutenant Governor's Volunteer Recognition award. Those who receive the award are eligible to receive the Power of Service award which is given to outstanding volunteers quarterly at commission board meetings. This award is given to volunteers who show significant commitment to the overall well-being of the populations served. The board recognized Samantha for her service to her community. A comprehensive bio of Samantha and her volunteer service was read to the board and is available upon request.

Utah Philanthropy Day

Last year, two of UServeUtah's annual volunteer awards were adopted by Utah Philanthropy Day, including the Governor's Lifetime Achievement Award and the Lieutenant Governor's Civic Engagement Award. After last year's recognition event, the committee suggested that a review of the awards to eliminate other overlapping awards. It was recommended that the Civic Volunteer of the Year award become the Lieutenant Governor's Public Service Award. The Lieutenant Governor was supportive of this change. The other recommendation would be for the Governor's Lifetime Achievement Award to be combined with either the Corporate Spirit of Giving Award or Career Humanitarian Award. Lieutenant Governor Cox will talk with Governor Herbert which direction he prefers. He will get back with the committee with this information.

Motion to approve the January Board Retreat minutes by Spencer Cox. Dwight Rasmussen seconded the motion. Vote carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

National Service – Lynette Rasmussen

On February 23, national service programs from around the state gathered at the Utah State Capitol for National Service Day on the Hill, aimed at educating legislators on the role and impact of national service in Utah. Attendees represented 24 programs from AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, and VISTA. They had the opportunity to be recognized in the House and Senate. The Lieutenant Governor spotlighted some highlights of impact to the media at a press event.

Program Directors Training was held by UServeUtah staff on February 23 for all current program directors. Topics included background checks, policies and procedures, financial compliance, and training on the online member management software as well as any national updates.

AmeriCorps Week, an annual event which celebrates AmeriCorps programs, members and the service they provide to their communities across the nation was celebrated on March 9-13. The following were recognized in the media in Utah: Playworks member Ashley Angler on Comcast Newsmakers; Utah Healthcare Corps member Ann Parrah and Levi Webb were featured on X96; The Red Cross was on Channel 4 ABC Good Things Utah. Utah Conservation Corps hosted a brown bag lunch with local officials and stakeholders at the habitat restoration projects near the Day Riverside Library in Salt Lake.

This year, UServeUtah is hosting the annual Pacific Region National Service Conference in Salt Lake City March 24-27, 2015 at the Salt Lake City Sheraton Hotel. Wendy Spencer, CEO for the Corporation for National and Community Service, will be speaking at the conference. She will also be meeting with Governor Herbert next week to discuss national service nationally as well as in Utah. Bill Basl, the national director for AmeriCorps, will be in town for the week and will be meeting with the Department of Veterans and Military Affairs as well as the Road Home. Approximately 350 people from 11 regional states have registered to attend the conference. Commissioners were invited to a networking event on Monday, March 23 at The Leonardo. Several top officials from the Corporation for National and Community Service as well as state commission staff from other states will be in attendance at this event.

The notice of availability for AmeriCorps funding was recently released to the public. Technical training meetings will be held in five of Utah's regions to provide assistance on the application process. These meetings will take place the first two weeks in April. All interested in applying must attend one of the trainings. Commissioners will be invited to help review applications near the beginning of June to determine funding for the upcoming program year. Final funding decisions are expected to be made by the end of June.

Mayors Day of Recognition for National Service will be celebrated on April 7 of this year. The purpose of this nationwide event is for mayors to recognize the efforts of national service programs and honor members in their community. Currently, 45 mayors and two county executives will participate in Utah. We are looking to expand coverage of mayor participation in Utah County, the Uintah Basin, Eastern Utah, and in Davis and Weber counties. An event will be held April 7 at Real Food Rising urban farm. Mayor McAdams and Mayor Becker's chief of staff, who is also a VISTA alum, will be speaking. Commissioners were encouraged to reach out to mayors in their communities to sign up for Mayor's Day. Lynette will reach out to the Alpine mayor. Jake will provide service site locations and email it to commissioners. Deannie Wimmer from KSL will approach the mayors of Park City and Farmington and will also work on building a news story about Mayors Day. LaDawn will forward commissioners information about the Real Food Rising and the County Council meeting for Salt Lake.

Disaster Service – Dwight Rasmussen

Karrie Beardall attended the Spontaneous Volunteer Management Training at the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD. She will use the newly-acquired knowledge in the upcoming Spontaneous Volunteer Management trainings. The first training will be held in Richfield, UT on May 28. Three additional trainings across the state will be planned later in the year in Heber, Orem, and Price.

UServeUtah is waiting to hear from the Division of Emergency Management to see if UServeUtah is going to be the lead on donation management. If UServeUtah remains the lead in this area, meetings will be scheduled with municipalities to discuss their current donation strategies and assess needs for future training. These meetings will start in 2016 and will take place in Washington County, northern Utah county and Brigham City.

A modified Spontaneous Volunteer Management Training will be held at the Pacific Region National Service conference next week. The purpose of this training will be to orient national service program managers on the process of engaging spontaneous or volunteers in the event of a disaster and how their national service members may be utilized for support in the community.

Community Engagement – Debbie Hardy

In the process of connecting with volunteer managers throughout the state to establish relationships, determine area and organization needs, invite them to ongoing volunteer management trainings, connect them with our resources and develop a Utah Volunteer Management Association with area managers .

There is one application received for regional volunteer management training from Weber State University in the amount of \$5000. UServeUtah will also be meeting with Utah Nonprofits Association to determine possible training and funding offerings for next year.

The committee is working with the Division of Emergency Management about a new volunteer matching website that can also fill needs around donations management.

Chris Bray and Debbie Hardy have created a list of links to best practice guidelines for developing a corporate employee volunteer program. Debbie Hardy has a copy for those who are interested. It will be on the UServeUtah website in the near future. The next step is to determine appropriate corporate contacts to survey what they are doing and how it impacts our communities. The Donors Forum in Salt Lake are working on a possible survey to see what the level of corporate involvement in providing money and volunteer. Commissioners will work with the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce and the Community Foundation of Utah on developing that survey.

The committee has determined that incorporating service learning within the education system is beyond the control of UServeUtah. Therefore, it is proposed that the wording in the strategic plan be changed from "encourages k-12 schools to incorporate service learning into their curriculum" to "encourages K-12 schools to incorporate service learning and/or youth service into their curriculum." Alan Griffith suggested a few commissioners attend the April or May School Board of Education meeting to orient new board members and superintendent Smith.

Motion to approve change wording specific to service learning in strategic plan made by Debbie Hardy. Seconded by Alan Griffith. Vote carried unanimously.

A follow-up letter was sent by the State Office of Education to all schools encouraging youth participation in Global Youth Service Day, which will occur on April 17-19 of this year.

Contact lists for schools are being developed for contact to discover level of school youth service involvement statewide.

An adapted Advanced Volunteer Management training will be offered at the Pacific Region National Service Conference on March 27. This training will be an opportunity for national service program managers and other conference participants to sample some of the curriculum taught at the Volunteer Management Trainings.

COMMISSION GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Since so many of the new commissioners are not in attendance, it was proposed that commissioner responsibilities and federal requirements be covered at an upcoming meeting.

Commissioners took the opportunity to report out on what is going on in their respective organizations.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn by Stan Penfold. Seconded by Dwight Rasmussen. Vote carried unanimously.

ADDITIONAL FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

LaDawn Stoddard to send out exact legislative wording on requirements for national service program representative for the board.

LaDawn will forward commissioners information about the Mayor's Day event at Real Food Rising and the County Council meeting for Salt Lake. Jake Murakami will provide a list of service site locations in Utah.